

# NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

## HAPPENINGS OF TWO CONTINENTS

A Resume of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

Roosevelt predicts Taft's nomination on the first ballot.

A blanket of snow covers the Dakotas, Iowa and Nebraska.

Lord Curzon has been persuaded to re-enter English politics.

An eminent French doctor says Kaiser William has consumption.

English are protesting against slavery in the Portuguese colonies.

Kansas City theaters have given up the fight against Sunday closing.

Nearly \$1,000,000 more graft by the Schmitz gang has been discovered.

North Carolina has again refused to pay the bonds issued during the reconstruction days.

There is a monster shipment of war material on the San Francisco docks billed for Manila.

The San Francisco health board has appealed to the people to continue the extermination of rats.

Roosevelt has allowed troops to remain in Goldfield on the promise of Governor Sparks to call a special session of the legislature.

New York is overrun by hundreds of unemployed.

The Twenty-fourth Japanese diet has just convened.

President Roosevelt is hunting turkeys at Pine Knot, Va.

State Treasurer Steel, of Oregon, has filed his new bond in the sum of \$635,000.

Cleveland, Ohio, manufacturers plan a resumption of work for fully 10,000 former employees during January.

Railroads throughout the country have shown the effects of the financial panic by a curtailment of orders for rolling stock.

At a meeting of the Pacific Coast Commercial Travelers' association in San Francisco it was voted to stop gambling among members.

A passenger train collided head-on with a freight near Lenox, Mich. Five trainmen met death. All passengers escaped with but slight injuries.

In a raid on Chinese gambling houses Portland police secured \$10,166.90 in coin and currency and \$4,445.09 of exchange on Hongkong banks. According to law this money may go into the state treasury.

Raleigh, N. C., has voted prohibition.

Dewey has just celebrated his 70th birthday.

Officers and crews of the big fleet are enjoying life at Trinidad.

Heney says special privilege is the root of political corruption.

Reports of New York banks show a recovery from the money crisis.

Accused members of the first Russian douma deny they advised rebellion.

Indiana Republicans have formally endorsed Fairbanks as their candidate for president.

It is said a dark horse has been selected to fill Bristol's place as United States attorney for Oregon.

Burning snowsheds near Truckee, Cal., has greatly delayed Southern Pacific trains between Portland and San Francisco.

Latest developments in the row between naval factions brings out the fact that it is over ranking of officers. Two constructions of the revised statutes is possible and each faction claims it is right.

Five men were killed while working in a Paris subway.

St. Joseph, Mo., has started a crusade against loan sharks.

The New York Republican club has declared for Hughes for president.

All signs of yellow fever has been driven from the Panam canal zone.

Puget sound steamboat men will cut the pay of their engineers January 1.

Lawson says only the re-election of Roosevelt can avert a national disaster.

A severe sleet storm has demoralized telegraphic communication around Chicago.

The head of the Methodist Book concern calls labor unions the worst of tyrants.

The Bank of Calistoga, Calistoga, Cal., has closed. Officers of the institution say it will reopen.

## EXPRESS CHARGES HIGH.

Wells-Fargo Accused of Discrimination Against Merchants.

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 31.—Interstate Commerce Commissioner Franklin K. Lane, today held a hearing of the complaint of the California Commercial association, composed of 29 mercantile firms in this city, charging the Wells-Fargo Express company with concealing from the public tariff schedules that had been filed with the Interstate Commerce commission in Washington and with making unjust and discriminatory rates. The actual question involved, however, was whether or not the quantity rate of 8 cents a pound from New York to San Francisco for shipments of 10,000 to 20,000 pounds applied to bulk or assembled shipments, gathered and forwarded by a forwarding agency to one concern or association organized for the purpose of getting the lower rate, the shipment ultimately intended for numerous consignees who were designated by numbers of the labels to the one consignee.

The charges of discrimination are based upon the refusal of the express company to transport a shipment of 16,000 pounds consisting of 443 packages, from New York to the California Commercial association in San Francisco last August, at the bulk or quantity rate of \$8 per hundred pounds, the company charging the regular package rate. It is also alleged that the express company charged a higher rate than that published and filed with the Interstate Commerce commission, the latter being wilfully concealed and hidden from the public. This complaint avers that it is a distinct violation of the interstate commerce act.

In answer, the express company denies all the allegations made, and charges that the association resorted to subterfuge in order to extort unjust discrimination in its own favor, and based its refusal to grant a quantity rate upon the shipment in question on the ground that, while consigned to one consignee, it was intended for more than a score of firms.

## EXPATRIATES IN CHINA.

Judge Wilfley Wants Congress to Make Laws for Them.

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 3.—Judge L. R. Wilfley, of the United States court at Shanghai, against whom charges of improper conduct of his court have been preferred at Washington, arrived in San Francisco this morning on the Pacific Mail liner Manchuria from the Orient, and after a stay of two days in this city will proceed to the national capital. On board the Manchuria with Judge Wilfley was F. M. Brooks, a lawyer, who has filed an action for \$50,000 damages at Honolulu, charging the head of the court in the Far East, together with his clerk, L. R. Hickel, with conspiracy in stopping the practice of Brooks in Shanghai.

Judge Wilfley denied that he was going to Washington to meet the charges preferred against him. "I am going to Washington," he said, "to aid in drawing an act that will extend to Americans in China a more complete body of laws than they now have. The laws now in force comprise little more than is embodied in the common law and are so indefinite as to be absolutely useless. It will be suggested to congress that the California code of laws be made to extend to China, wherein such laws are applicable.

"In addition to this matter, I am journeying East that congress may be asked for an appropriation for a proper Federal building at Shanghai, where the American consulate and courts may be under one roof."

## Jail Wrecking Glass' Health.

San Francisco, Dec. 31.—Affidavits have been served on District Attorney Langdon by T. C. Coogan, Louis Glass' attorney, in his attempt to get his client out of jail. The district attorney will file counter affidavits. Dr. Roland E. Hartley and Dr. J. M. Williamson state in their affidavits that they visited Louis Glass at the county jail and that he showed "marked general physical deterioration and general derangement." They say they found him in a nervous condition which will permanently injure his health.

## Raises Rent of Hot Springs.

Chicago, Dec. 31.—A dispatch to the Tribune from Hot Springs, Ark., says: Announcement was made yesterday that the United States would double the price for its healing hot waters after the first of the year, and that all bathhouse leases also would be doubled. A protest will be sent at once to Washington. The hot water now is dispensed by the government at \$20 per annum for each tub supplied. The bathhouse owners state they are unable to meet the raise.

## Garnets in New York Bedrock.

New York, Dec. 31.—That New York City rests on a vast mass of garnets is the discovery of Ralph E. Morgan, an English mineralogist, now visiting here. In a mass of rock thrown up from a subway excavation, he discovered a large garnet. On the dumping ground at Sheepshead bay he found a number of excellent garnets.

# EPIDEMIC OF GRIPPE

Spreads Through the East Like Prairie Fire.

## VICTIMS BY TENS OF THOUSANDS

Fearful That Epidemic May Surpass That of 1889-90—Street Car Service is Crippled.

Chicago, Dec. 31.—Deadly grippe, which has already fastened itself upon nearly every city east of the Mississippi river, is spreading westward with appalling rapidity. Not since the terrible epidemic of 1889-90 have there been such ravages by the fearful malady as at the present time, according to special dispatches gathered from many sources. Mild, open weather, highly unreasonable, is held responsible by health authorities.

Pittsburg is the chief complainant. So many people there are ill that the streetcar service is crippled and office buildings are practically empty. Besides Pittsburg, New York, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Boston, Milwaukee and other Eastern and Western cities were reported to be wrestling with the disease, a number of deaths in each city occurring daily.

"La grippe, as the French call it," said Dr. Herman Spaulding, of the Chicago Health department, "travels with the speed of a prairie fire. It travels along the lines of transportation, as it is carried by travelers from one city to another. It is decidedly contagious and there is no effective way of checking its spread. If other cities become badly affected, Chicago is sure to be hit, because of the thousands of travelers who arrive daily in Chicago from every point of the compass."

From New York word comes that the grippe has begun a devastating crusade in that city and that among its victims have been opera singers and many actors and actresses. There were 63 deaths in the metropolis last week. Besides this there were many deaths from pneumonia, influenced by the grippe bacillus.

Physicians in Boston say there are at least 60,000 cases now in that city. Cincinnati has 2,000 cases and physicians say that new cases are developing by the score every hour.

## ON SECOND STAGE.

Battleship Fleet Leaves Trinidad for Rio Janeiro.

Port of Spain, Dec. 31.—The American battleship fleet weighed anchor at 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon and steamed for Rio Janeiro. Accompanying the fleet were the supply ships Culgoa and Glacier. Early in the morning the signal went up from Rear Admiral Evans' flagship Connecticut to prepare for departure at 8 a. m., but owing to a delay in the coaling of the battleship Maine from the collier Fortuna, it was necessary to change the time of sailing.

Long before the hour set a myriad of small craft, chiefly launches and steam yachts, moved up and down along the lines of anchored battleships, the merry parties aboard shouting farewells to the departing visitors. Thousands of residents climbed the surrounding hills to view the great ships as they moved outward on their journey of 3,000 miles and more, while boatloads of excursionists went to the small islands in the gulf and others to the floating dock to catch the last glimpse of the ships.

The fleet presented a magnificent appearance as it steamed out in four columns with the supply ships trailing, a distance of 400 yards separating one division from another. With the Connecticut in the lead the battleships headed for the Boas and steamed majestically through the grand Boas and thence along the northern coast of Trinidad. An average of from 10 to 11 knots an hour will carry the fleet to the end of the second lap of the 14,000-mile journey in about 12 days, and it was announced by Admiral Evans before his departure that he expects to reach Rio Janeiro on Friday evening January 10.

## Natives Facing a Famine.

Hilldale, Mich., Dec. 31.—Secretary H. S. Myers, of the general conference of Free Baptists, said today: "According to advices just received by me from our missions in Bengal and Orissa, India, four months of rain is the usual allowance in Lucknow, India, in a year, but during the year 1907 it has rained only four days. The result is famine everywhere. Thousands of the population are suffering and before relief comes next August hundreds of thousands must die unless relief comes from Christian lands."

## Earthquake Breaks Company.

Hamburg, Dec. 31.—The Transatlantic Fire Insurance company has voted to liquidate on account of the fact that more than half of its capital was lost by the San Francisco fire and earthquake.

## STUDY FORESTRY.

Students at Oregon Agricultural College Gathering Tree Seeds.

By E. A. Lake, Oregon Agricultural College. The students in forestry at the Agricultural college are making their first collection of seeds of native trees and shrubs for use in the establishment of a forest tree nursery and arboretum. The purpose in view is not only that the work shall be instructive to the student in the study of seeds and seedage, silviculture and dendrology, but that the plant shall be a source of data to the whole state upon the growth, habit, resistance and general character of the trees and shrubs of Oregon, so far as is possible to grow them upon the same site and similar conditions.

Not only are local seeds being collected but seeds from the home districts are coming in from friends of students and the institution. This kindness on the part of those residing in the more distant and mountainous parts of the state is highly appreciated, as it enables the class to obtain a much greater variety than otherwise would be possible with the time and means at the command of either students or institution.

Owing to the fact that the course is but one year old, only the general and preliminary phases of the subject have been considered by the students in the work. The O. A. C. Forest club, an organization of those interested in the forests of the state, is now discussing forest fire laws, their enforcement, efficiency and improvement. Each student is assigned a phase of the topic in hand and in due time reports his findings to the club. Prominent timber, mill and lumbermen upon invitation discuss various topics before the club, as transportation, timber preservation, forest conservation, re-forestation, improved methods of lumbering, U. S. forest service work and similar topics.

Later the advanced students will take up work looking to the solution of some of the very practical problems now before the wood users of the country.

The great problem of what to do with the waste, including the standing timber that is injured by insect and fungus foes, will be one of the first to be investigated as soon as the equipment of the department will permit.

The statement is made upon good authority that fifteen per cent of the mature timber on the western slope of the central region of the Cascade is wholly lost through fungous diseases, and that another fifteen per cent is graded as cull. Beetles, borers and minor foes do considerable further damage, and it is safe to say that the sum total of these losses must amount to millions of dollars. It is reasonable to suppose, in the face of recent results in agricultural practices in our own country, to say nothing of the modern forestry practices of Europe, that the major part of this loss could be turned to gain through the intelligent investigation of the troubles and the application of modern measures for combatting these foes of the forest.

Other great problems are those relating to taxation, re-forestation, utilizing mill waste, improved methods of harvesting the crops, disposing of the debris and weed trees, timber technology and the preservation of lumber.

These problems together with many more it is the purpose of the college to help solve through the department of forestry, as well as train men to take hold of the practical work and problems of our forests and thus insure the best possible use of the tree crop.

## Publications for Farmers.

The following publications of interest to farmers and others have been issued by the Agricultural department of the Federal government and will be furnished free, so long as they are available, except where otherwise noted, upon application to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.:

Farmers' Bulletin No. 116.—Irrigation in Fruit Growing. By E. J. Wickson, M. A., professor of agricultural practice, University of California, and horticulturist of the California experiment station. Pp. 48, figs. 8. A statement of the relations of irrigation to fruit production, and of irrigation methods as they have been demonstrated by Pacific coast experience.

Farmers' Bulletin No. 138.—Irrigation in Field and Garden. By E. J. Wickson, M. A. Pp. 40, figs. 18. This bulletin discusses the subject from the standpoint of the individual farmer, and contains instructions on the determination of ditch levels, the measurement of small streams, sources of water supply and their use, the distribution of irrigation water, methods of applying water, the choice of an irrigation method, and the time for the application of water.

Bulletin No. 147.—Report on Drainage Investigations in 1903. By C. G. Elliott, drainage expert, irrigation investigations, office of experiment stations. Pp. 62, pls. 5, figs. 12. Price 10 cents. This is a report of the work done by Mr. Elliott during the year 1903. It includes discussions of plans for drainage near Fresno, Cal., in the Yakima and Ahtanum valleys, Washington, in the Grey Bull valley, Wyoming, in the Missouri valley and in Hancock county, Iowa, and of drainage as a preventive of hillside erosion in Georgia.

# MOB CHINESE STORES

Mounted Police Called Upon to Quell Canadians.

## DUE TO FALSE MURDER STORY

Baseless Rumor That White Man is Wounded Arouses Fury of White People.

Lethbridge, Alberta, Dec. 28.—Because they believed that a prominent citizen had been murdered in a Chinese restaurant, 1,500 men raided the Oriental quarter late last night and left a wreck behind. Restaurants and laundries were smashed, doors and windows and entire fronts of buildings being reduced to splinters. The regular police of the town were powerless and a brigade of mounted police had to be called out to quell the riot.

It was just after 9 o'clock that the mob began to form. The story had got abroad that Harry Smith, one of the best known ranchers of the cattle district of which this city is the center, had been fatally wounded in a restaurant. Curiously enough, neither Smith nor any one else had been hurt, but even the police were misled by the tale and two Orientals were placed under arrest, charged with his murder.

An indignant mob gathered opposite the eating house and there was talk of lynching. Suddenly someone threw a rock, which smashed a front window, and in a moment the crowd was beyond control. Bricks and stones were used and, when the doors had been broken, the tables and chairs and dishes were smashed. The Columbia and Alberta restaurants were literally wrecked. What could not be conveniently broken by the few men who could get inside was passed out to the street to the mob in waiting, and there demolished.

At 10 o'clock a detachment of mounted police appeared and the crowd scattered. Hundreds of the rioters merely shifted the scene of their pillaging. Three blocks away, opposite the Arlington hotel, they cleaned out another Chinese restaurant and badly handled two Orientals who were captured within.

Mayor Galbraith, who had rushed to the scene when the mounted police were first called, delivered a speech asking good citizens to disperse. The crowd listened to him and to Magistrate Townsend, who spoke later. All possible damage having been done, the crowd went home.

Five of the rioters have been arrested, but it is doubtful if they will be prosecuted.

## OLD DOCUMENTS FOUND.

Papers Taken From Lieutenant Pike Come to Light.

Mexico City, Dec. 26.—What is considered a very important historical discovery has resulted from the efforts of Dr. Herbert E. Bolton, the American historian, who is here engaged in research work under the auspices of the Carnegie institute of Washington. The discovery consists in the unearthing in this city of 18 of the 21 documents taken from the possession of Lieutenant Zebulon N. Pike, of the United States army, by Spanish soldiers in 1806, when he was captured while making his famous trip up the Arkansas and Missouri rivers, visiting the Osage and Comanche Indians, at the instance of General James Wilkinson, then governor of Louisiana.

The whereabouts of the other three documents cannot be learned. So important is the discovery considered in the United States that Secretary Root has just sent Dr. Bolton his congratulations.

## Mexicans Left in Poverty.

Los Angeles, Dec. 26.—The action of the transcontinental railroads in discharging hundreds of Mexican or part Mexican laborers during the weeks preceding Christmas has given rise to a pitiable condition of poverty among this very numerous class of people. It is estimated that about 800 men in all were let out. Most of them have families, and nearly all were without money when discharged. It is estimated that about 500 able-bodied Mexicans with their families are destitute in this city at the present.

## Telephones for Submarines.

Paris, Dec. 28.—Following elaborate experiments to prevent the recurrence of accidents to submarine vessels, the minister of the navy has issued orders that all submarines be fitted out with detachable telephone buoys, which, in case of accident will permit of communication with the surface.

## Triumph of Roosevelt.

London, Dec. 28.—The Times in an editorial this morning discusses the prospect of peace in Central America resulting from the peace conference held at Washington, which it regards as a great triumph for President Roosevelt's diplomacy.